

# **BOARD OF CERTIFICATION OF OPERATORS OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES**

**MEETING MINUTES: WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 2014**

**Members in Attendance: Dr. Janet Baldwin, Paul Desrosiers, Frank McLynch and Bill Patenaude**

**Others in Attendance: Wes Plummer and Kevin Handley Synagro - Woonsocket**

**Marisa Desautel, Esq. and Traci Pena, RIDEM**

**Gregory Schultz, Esq., RI Attorney General's Office**

**The first order of business was the review of the draft April 2, 2014 meeting minutes.**

**After review, of the March 6, 2014 minutes Mr. Desrosiers motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Dr. Baldwin seconded the motion. The motion passed with all eligible members voting in favor.**

**The draft April 2, 2014 Executive Session meeting minutes were tabled as quorum would not be met to vote.**

**The first item discussed was Operator Licensure applications. The Board received an application from Mr. Wes Plummer, who is**

currently the Plant Manager at the Synagro facility in Woonsocket. The facility is a Class 2 facility. Mr. Plummer is enrolled in the basic wastewater course and is awaiting results from the exam. Mr. Plummer would like to sit for the Grade 2 exam offered by the Board. Mr. Patenaude noted that Mr. Plummer has no prior experience as an operator at a wastewater treatment facility. He then asked the Board for consideration of issuing Mr. Plummer a Grade 2 OIT rather than a full Grade 2 should he pass the Grade 2 exam.

Mr. Patenaude motioned to allow Mr. Plummer to sit for the Grade 2 exam, should he pass; issue him a Grade 2 OIT certificate for one year. Mr. McLynch seconded the motion.

Discussion followed, Mr. Desrosiers inquired if someone needed to be at the plant to supervise while Mr. Plummer completes his OIT status. Mr. Plummer stated that he has weekly meetings, and speaks almost daily with the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent.

After discussion, all members present voted in favor and as such the motion passed.

Mr. Patenaude also wanted to remind the facility that it is incumbent upon managers to provide information of staffing changes in a timely manner so that the Board can provide license availability information. The plant manager was on duty as of January 2014 and the Board did not have knowledge until the submittal of the application until May 2,

**2014.**

**Mr. Patenaude stated he had applications from Bristol WWTF and was awaiting confirmation of managerial positions and will approve or deny pending his findings.**

**In other business, Attorney Schultz updated the Board on a Settlement Agreement.**

**The next item discussed was the “Training Event Approval Guidance” document. Attorney Desautel recommended referencing the statute. Mr. Patenaude will also add a note that a template is on the website of a course certificate. Dr. Baldwin suggested some edits.**

**Mr. Patenaude motioned to approve the draft “Training Event Approval Guidance” as amended. Mr. McLynch seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor, as such the motion passed.**

**In new business, at the Woonsocket WWTF, in June the Superintendent and the Regional Manager will be away for 4 days. They are looking for approval to allow Mr. Anthony J. Fiorillo to provide oversight to Mr. DeGemmis while they are at an out-of-state conference. The Board had no problem with the plan and noted that Mr. Fiorillo should not be given a Rhode Island license through reciprocity.**

**A motion was made by Mr. Patenaude to allow Mr. Fiorillo to oversee the operations at the Woonsocket WWTF while the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent are away at the conference for 4 days in June. Mr. Desrosiers seconded. All members present voted in favor, as such the motion passed.**

**With no further business, Mr. Patenaude motion to adjourn. Mr. McLynch seconded, with all member voting in favor, the motion passed.**

**The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 4, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. at the RIDEM-Office of Water Resources Room 200 located at 235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI.**